

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are now pending in this application. Claim 1 is independent. Claims 28-32 have been canceled by this amendment to place the application in condition for allowance.

Anticipation Rejection By Semba

Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 28, 29 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Semba (US 5,760,991) is requested. These claims have been canceled, thus rendering their rejection moot.

Anticipation Rejection By Kishimoto et al.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 28-32 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Kishimoto et al. (US 6,628,580) is requested. These claims have been canceled, thus rendering their rejection moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that claims 1-27 have been allowed.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendment and remarks, Applicants believe that each of pending claims 1-27 in this application is in immediate condition for allowance. An early indication of the same would be appreciated.

Although no fees are believed to be due with this response, for any fees that are due, including fees for extensions of time, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment during the pendency of this application to CBLH Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 22171-00023-US1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: November 2, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

Electronic signature: /Larry J. Hume/

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